PROCÈS VERBAL

OF

THE CEREMONY OF INSTALLATION

OF

PRESIDENT

OF THE

NEW-YORK HISTORICAL SOCIETY,

AS

IT WILL BE PERFORMED FEBRUARY 3, 1820.

"Quantum est in rebus inane."——SOCIETY'S MOTTO.

NEW-YORK:

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1820.

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CEREMONY

OF

THE INSTALLATION

OF

DAVID HOSACK, M.D. L.L.D. D.D.

F. R. S. LONDON, EDINBURGH, HAYTI, AND PEKIN; FIRST VICE-PRESIDENT OF THE NEW-YORK SOCIETY OF CONCHOLOGY AND INDIAN EARTHEN-WARE; OMNIUM ACADEMIARUM AMERICARUM, VEL ARTIUM, VEL SCIENTARIUM, VEL A, B, C, SOCIUS; NECNON FRATER HONORARIUS CONSOCIATUS AD VIGINTI-QUATUOR SOCIETATES EUROPÆANAS, OMNES IN LINEA,

AS

PRESIDENT OF THE NEW-YORK HISTORICAL SOCIETY,

ON THE 8th OF FEBRUARY, 1820.

THE COMMITTEE OF ARRANGEMENT, consisting of five Generals of Militia, five Doctors of Law, five Doctors of Medicine, and five Doctors of Divinity, have unanimously appointed

Gen. JACOB MORTON, *their Chairman*, and Dr. VALENTINE MOTT, *their Secretary*.

Mr. Simpson, of the New-York Theatre, has volunteered his services as stage manager for the ceremony.

Scriblerus Busby, L.L.D., and J. A. Graham, L.L.D., will act as Installators on the occasion.

The Society will meet at their Hall precisely at 4 P. M.: the Clergy in their gowns, Militia Officers in full uniform: all the other members with clean linen, and well shaved; coats, hats, and shoes brushed. Seats reserved for the Ladies.

John G. Bogert, Esq. Russian Consul, and President of the Board of Counsellors of the Society, will take the chair in full consular uniform; an empty arm-chair being placed under the canopy at his right hand.

The minutes having been read, and the election of officers duly announced, Drs. Busby and Graham, in their red robes, as Doctors of Law, will then introduce the President-elect, clad in a white surplice, with black gloves; the chairman, and all the members, rising to receive him. They will lead the President-elect to the chair, and Dr. Busby will then say unto the chairman,

Salve vir doctissime,
Consul spectatissime—
Hic presento, our new Præses.
To be seated, ubi sedes.

The chairman shall then rise; and, having first placed the President-elect in the chair on his right, shall make an harangue in the Russian tongue, in honour of Governor Clinton and the President-elect; after which, first bowing to the President-elect, and then to Drs. Busby and Graham, and finally to all the members, he shall say or chaunt aloud,

Viri spectatissimi,
L.L.D.'s doctissimi,
Et vos omnes, Learned Fellows,
Nunc requiro, that you tell us
Whether no objections are
That this man should be our Czar?

Then Dr. Graham shall make an excellent English speech, in honour of Governor Clinton and the President-elect; after which, Dr. Busby shall make a Greek speech, in honour of Governor Clinton and the President-elect; after which, Mr. Daponte shall make an Ita-

lian speech, in honour of Governor Clinton and the President-elect; after which Mr. Bonnor shall make a French speech, in honour of Governor Clinton and the President-elect; after which Mr. Verplanck shall make a Dutch speech, in honour of Governor Clinton and the President-elect; after which Mr. Gahn shall make a Swedish speech, in honour of Governor Clinton and the President-elect; after which, Dr. Mac Niven shall make an Irish speech, in honour of Governor Clinton and the President-elect; after which Mr. A. H. Palmer shall make a Chinese speech, in honour of Governor Clinton and the President-elect; after which Major Noah shall make a Hebrew speech in honour of Governor Clinton and the President-elect.

These being concluded, *The Diplomas* of membership of all the learned Societies to which the President-elect has been associated shall be drawn into the room in the triumphal car, built under the direction of Stephen Price, Esq. for the triumphal entry of Alexander the Great into Babylon, on the New-York Theatre. The diplomas shall all be read

aloud alternately by Drs. Busby and Graham, at the conclusion of each of which the President-elect shall rise, and, bowing gracefully unto the Society, shall chaunt, *clarâ voce*,

Verum est, et non est Hum.
Quare dico, dignus sum,
Vester Præses, for to be,
In this wise Society.

To which the members shall chaunt in reply,

Dignus, dignus, dignus es,
For to be our new Præses.

Then Dr. Busby shall read aloud the President-elect's diploma of M.D.; whereupon four M.D.'s, in their robes, shall advance, bearing a medical robe, which they shall put on to the President-elect, in such wise as not to hide his surplice. Dr. Busby shall then say, or sing,

Hic Præses, magnus, novus noster
Medicinæ nunc est Doctor—

Quare dignus, dignus est,
As it is by all confess'd,
Præses noster, for to be
In hoc docto corpore.

Then the members shall chaunt, in reply,

Dignus, dignus, dignus es,
For to be our new Præses.

Then Dr. Busby shall read, *clarâ voce*, as before, the President-elect's diploma of L.L.D.; after which four Doctors of the Law, all robed in their red robes, shall enrobe the President-elect with the gown and hood of a Doctor of Laws, but in such wise as not to hide the medical robe, or the surplice. Dr. Busby shall then say, or chaunt,

Duplex Doctor est hic Præses,
Medicinam scit, et Leges,
Latine scribit, etiam Chaldee,
Quare dico, dignus, valde
Est hic magnus duplex Doctor,
Præses noster for to be,
In this wise Society.

All the members chaunt, in reply, as before,

Dignus, dignus, dignus es
For to be our new Præses. Bis.

Then Dr. Busby shall read aloud the President-elect's diploma of Doctor of Divinity, whereupon four D.D.'s shall advance, bearing the full robe and hood of an Oxford D.D., which they shall throw over the back of the President-elect, in such wise as still to show his other official integuments. Dr. Busby shall then say or sing aloud,

Triplex Doctor est hic Præses,
Cures souls' and bodies' bad diseases,
In Law et Physic capit fees,
Nam habet all the three degrees;
Quod dico nunc vobis, permagnum est omen,
Quod foret perpetuum per secula nomen.

To which the Society shall chaunt in reply,

Dignus, dignus, dignus es
For to be our new Præses.
Three times repeated.

After which rising, they shall add,

Et Bene, we know without any omen,
Quod erit perpetuum per secula nomen.

After this, the grand Ode, written for the occasion by Brevet Major Pindar Puff, Poet Laureat to his Excellency, shall be performed by Dominick Lynch, Esq. assisted in the recitative by T. A. Cooper, Esq.; music composed by Dr Jackson; all the members joining in the grand *finale*, will chaunt these words:

Hail to great Hosack—triple Doctor thou!
Of Law and Physic erst—of Sacred Letters now!
Thrice hail to Clinton—greater Doctor still!
Who wields the State—as Hosack wields the pill!!

The whole to conclude with a grand CRASH.

When this is done, Colonel Pell shall enter in full uniform, with all his orders, preceded by a full band of martial music. Colonel Pell, advancing into the middle of the room, taking out a white cambric handkerchief, and

standing erect, shall read aloud Governor Clinton's brevet "of honour," of Major General in the militia, conferred upon the President-elect; after which General Colden and General R. Macomb shall put on the shoulders of the President-elect, over his robes, a pair of large epaulettes, and shall place upon his head the hat worn by Napoleon at the battle of Waterloo; whereupon General Morton shall fix a plume, which he shall take from his own hat, and Colonel Pell shall gird him with his own belt and sword, giving him therewith the *accolade* of knighthood. Then all the militia officers, rising, shall draw, and salute General Hosack; during which martial music shall play, and punch shall be handed to the ladies.

The chairman, Mr. Bogert, shall then order Dr. Williamson's grandmother's family Bible* to be brought in; after which, rising from the chair of state, he shall bow profoundly four times: 1st, to the bust of Governor Clinton; 2d, to the new President; 3d, to the

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* The one mentioned in Dr. Hosack's Eulogy of Dr. Williamson, and now in the library of the Historical Society.

Society; 4thly, turning his back unto the Society, he shall bow slowly and profoundly unto the vacant chair; then he shall with both hands hand the President-elect unto the chair of state (martial music playing a Russian air); after this he shall again bow unto the President, and shall descend and seat himself among the private members, but in a chair specially reserved for him under his own bust.

Applause—Music—and Punch.

Dr. Graham shall then reverently hold the grand-maternal Williamson Bible open before the President on his right hand, and the President placing both his hands thereon, Dr. Busby, standing at his left hand, shall proceed to administer the OATHS OF OFFICE—thus:

Juras, Clinton adorare,
Piff-paff-puffere et laudare.

To which the President shall reply,

Juro, Clinton adorare,
Piff-paff-puffere et laudare.

Dr. Busby:

JURAS, ut nunquam, nunquam, never
Thou wilt from Clinton's fortunes sever?

The President:

JURO, ut nunquam, nunquam, never
Will I from Clinton's fortunes sever.

Dr. Busby:

Abjuras Sanctum TAMMANEUM,
Ut pravum, fœdum, turpem, reum?

The President:

Abjuro Sanctum Tammaneum,
Ut pravum, fœdum, turpem, reum.

Then the President shall arise from his seat, and the Hon. William P. Van Ness, followed by six other members whose names *incipiunt in Van*, shall advance, and, gravely bowing, shall present unto Dr. Busby the SCEPTRE of the Society, or the gold-headed cane of Rip Van Dam. Dr. Busby shall present it

unto the President, and then both installators shall bow thirteen times unto the President, (in memory of the original thirteen States,) and unto the Society as many times as there may be States admitted into the Union at the moment of so bowing*. After this, they shall descend and seat themselves by the side of Mr. Bogert.

Then the President will deliver unto the Society an Oration on the comparative merits of the two patron Saints of the Institution, Santa Claus (or St. Nicholas) and De Witt Clinton, or Dr. Clinton.

This done, the whole Society shall arise, and Mr. Barent Gardenier shall set the tune of "Santa Claus goot heylig man," in which ancient carol he shall be accompanied by Mr. Bleecker, Judge W. P. Van Ness, Mr. Verplanck, Dr. Onderdonk, and the other Dutch members of the Society.

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* The Society is informed, that, to prevent any mistake, Mr. Lang has undertaken that an express shall start from Washington the moment the Missouri question is settled, and arrive at the New-York Institution in nineteen hours and twenty-four minutes.

Dr. Busby will then bring forward the following resolutions:

Resolved, That this Society return their thanks to the GLORIOUS and SUBLIME De Witt Clinton, for the honour which he hath conferred upon the Society, by having been its President.

Resolved, That the oration delivered before the Historical Society by his Excellent Excellency, can be described only in its own language, as possessing "the energetic spirit of "a Frenchman, and the sublime eloquence of "an Iroquois*."

Resolved, That we view in De Witt Clinton, "the tortoise of the Indian, and the atlas "of the Heathen Mythology, sustaining the "world†."

Resolved, That our late and present Presidents are (in the words of the former‡) "The

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* Clinton's Historical Discourse.

† Clinton's Address to the Academy of Fine Arts.

‡ Ditto.

"CASTOR and POLLUX of antiquity—
"*lucida sidera*—stars of excellent light and
"benign influence."

Resolved, That this Society will take warning from the advice of its late beloved President, and will never "like the self-burning "tree of Guinea, be destroyed by the fire of "its own genius*."

These votes having been carried by acclamations, the Committee appointed to petition the Legislature for a further grant of money, or land, for a permanent fund, will report the draft of a petition. Then Dr. Busby, turning to the bust of Governor Clinton, shall say in *recitativo*, accompanied by the whole Society,

Tu es grandissimus Testudo,
Qui geris totum mundum,
Never mortal shone as you do;
Tunc, grant to us a FUNDUM.

The whole ceremony will conclude with PRAYERS by the PRESIDENT.

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* Clinton's Address to the Academy of Fine Arts.

A CARD.

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Dr. Busby presenteth his profound respects to the members of the New-York Historical Society, and requesteth that they will suspend their opinion on the character of the late Dr. Williamson, until the publication of Dr. Busby's "Vindication of the late Dr. Hugh Williamson, from the charges brought against him by Professor Hosack, in his *Eloges Funebres;*" wherein Dr. Busby pledgeth himself to prove that the accusation against Dr. Williamson of having been "A MAN

OF LETTERS, *Homo trium literarum,*" *Anglice*, a letter-thief, is altogether groundless. He beggeth, at the same time, that it be expressly understood that this literary controversy will, in no wise, interrupt the long and unbroken friendship which hath hitherto subsisted between himself and President Hosack.

DR. BUSBY
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